

# **SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET**

## **Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services**

*This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Fifth Suffolk Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2003.*

### **Residents of Fifth Suffolk Representative District**

#### **Characteristics of Admissions**

In FY 2003, there were 115,896 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; 19% (22,089) of these admissions reside in the Fifth Suffolk Representative District. 1.1% (255) of admissions from the Fifth Suffolk Representative District were under 17 years of age. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2003, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the Fifth Suffolk Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 75% were male and 25% were female.
- 64% were between the ages of 30-49.
- 47% were white non-Latino, 31% were black non-Latino, 18% were Latino, and 4% were other racial categories.
- 74% were never married, 9% were married, and 17% reported not to be married now.
- 33% had less than high school education, 49% completed high school, and 18% had more than high school education.
- 12% were employed.
- 40% were homeless.
- 19% had prior mental health treatment.

#### **Primary Substance of Use**

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Fifth Suffolk Representative District.

<b>Table 1</b>					
<b>Primary Drug by District and State FY 2003</b>					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	37%	47%	4%	3%	5%
State	43%	38%	6%	4%	4%

#### **Substances Used in Past Year**

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (or IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

<b>Table 2</b> <b>Annual Admissions by Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2003</b>							
<b>Fifth Suffolk Representative District</b>							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
<b>FY '95</b>	20,845	15,929	5,791	8,728	6,376	6,851	4,251
<b>FY '96</b>	21,646	16,139	5,686	8,375	6,309	7,380	4,377
<b>FY '97</b>	22,968	17,531	5,668	7,828	6,457	7,577	4,806
<b>FY '98</b>	23,125	17,029	5,512	7,066	5,336	8,611	5,555
<b>FY '99</b>	22,171	16,360	5,070	6,855	5,028	8,620	5,443
<b>FY '00</b>	22,152	16,115	4,891	6,414	4,588	8,887	5,620
<b>FY '01</b>	23,394	16,329	5,173	6,305	4,239	10,333	6,066
<b>FY '02</b>	23,604	15,616	4,719	6,200	4,182	11,417	7,467
<b>FY '03</b>	22,089	14,129	4,274	5,931	3,809	11,335	8,275

### Heroin and Injection Drug Use

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the Fifth Suffolk Representative District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV.

